

**For Immediate Release**

March 14, 2003

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**LATINO CAUCUS PRAISES SELECTION OF NEW  
CSU CAMPUS PRESIDENTS**

Two outstanding administrators selected to head distinguished CSU campuses.

**Sacramento, Calif.**-Assembly Majority Floor Leader Marco A. Firebaugh (D-South Gate), and the Latino Caucus commended the California State University Trustees and Chancellor Charles Reed today for selecting two well-respected Latino administrators to lead prominent California State University campuses.

Dr. Alex Gonzalez, President, CSU San Marcos since 1997, succeeds retiring CSU Sacramento President Don Gerth. Prior to his tenure at CSU San Marcos, Gonzalez, a professor of psychology, spent 18 years at CSU Fresno, beginning as an assistant professor. He also served as the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs for six years at Fresno.

Dr. Michael Ortiz, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at CSU Fresno, will assume the presidency of California State Polytechnic University, Pomona in July after the retirement of current President Bob Suzuki, who has successfully led the campus for the past 12 years.

"Dr. Gonzalez and Dr. Ortiz are invaluable, experienced academic administrators who have demonstrated their effectiveness in administering large well-known institutions," said Firebaugh. "I commend the Trustees and Chancellor Reed for selecting these two extremely well qualified individuals to continue the great work that both President Gerth and President Suzuki have accomplished at their respective universities."

"It is welcomed news to hear two such extraordinary individuals with ties to the Central Valley have received such a high honor," said Assembly Member Sarah Reyes (D-Fresno).

"I am delighted that Dr. Alexander Gonzalez has been named President of California State University Sacramento, and it is my distinct pleasure to welcome him and his family to the most diverse city in America," said Sen. Deborah Ortiz (D-Sacramento). "His breadth of experience and first hand knowledge of California's unique educational needs will serve our region exceptionally well."

"On behalf of the residents of the Inland Empire, I am pleased to welcome Dr. Michael Ortiz as the new president of Cal Poly Pomona. Dr. Ortiz brings impeccable credentials to the job, and his experience as the first member of his family to attend college makes him the kind of person that many of us can relate to," said Senator Nell Soto (D-Pomona). "I also extend best wishes to Bob Suzuki, who is stepping down after 12 proud years of leading the university."

"The students, faculty and staff of Cal Poly Pomona will surely benefit from the tremendous experience and remarkable tenure that Dr. Ortiz brings to the University," said Assembly Member Gloria Negrete-McLeod (D-Chino). "President Suzuki has been a tremendous asset to Cal Poly Pomona, he will be greatly missed."

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